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sight but is clearly on foreign ground when he comes to the "so-called science of sociology." The laborer, he says, is beginning to think, thanks to board schools and the cheap press, and is becoming aroused from his former apathetic state. "The essential trouble in our growing labor disorder is the profound distrust which has grown up in the minds of the new generation of workers of either the ability or the good faith of the property-owning, ruling and directing class," and the only escape Wells sees from social democracy lies in an *exaltation of the standard of achievement*.

Defining science as classification measurement, he finds that physics and mathematics, for instance, attain practical results by neglecting the differences in individual traits of the unitary substances (atoms) with which they deal, since in the great number of atoms with which those sciences deal individual differences are lost; but sociology, he says, must take cognizance of these individual differences. "It is, upon any hypothesis, no less than an attempt to bring that vast, complex, unique Being, its subject, into clear true relations with the individual intelligence." "Could you take man by the thousand billion, you could generalize about them as you do about atoms; could you take atoms singly, it may be you would find them as individual as your aunts and cousins." This, he states, is the *minority* belief; and it leads one to doubt his judgment of what constitutes science. "The proper and distinctive method," he says, "of sociology is the creation of utopias."

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WILLIAMSON, J. A. *Maritime Enterprise, 1485-1558.* Pp. 416. Price, \$1. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1913.

Mr. Williamson has undertaken the difficult task of tracing in detail the history of the great transition period in the rise of the English carrying trade. The present work contains much interesting information, and some important episodes in commercial history are related in full for the first time, but the materials are not handled as well as might be expected.

The notable features of the work are: a discussion of the Cabot voyages resulting in the partial rehabilitation of Sebastian Cabot, the account of the downfall of the Hanse, and the history of English voyages to the Mediterranean. The facts are not always new, in connection with the Cabots little new evidence is brought forward, but the analysis is suggestive. There is new material presented on the struggle of the Hansards to maintain their privileges. The antagonism of the merchant adventurers was clearly the controlling factor in England. The crown was not inclined to suppress or curtail existing privileges, but coming under financial obligations to the merchant adventurers as a company and having as advisors men like Gresham and Cecil who were important members, the crown was gradually led into a policy of avowed hostility which was ultimately fatal to the Hanse. There are many references to the woolen industry and to the trade with the Low Countries in finished and unfinished cloth. It is stated that the "light drapery" came into England only in the latter sixteenth century. It is difficult to be certain of the purport of these passages for there were many stages

in the rise of the woolen industry, active growth not merely in the sixteenth century but also in the fifteenth, and the earlier changes were probably more important with reference to trade than Mr. Williamson would suggest. More space might wisely have been given the subject.

The book is concerned with two topics, voyages of discovery and trade with Europe. In its present form, the general arrangement is based on the simple chronological order. The reign of Henry VII is treated in both aspects, and then the period of Henry VIII and his successors. The subject suffers from such a division. There would be a gain in merely rearranging the chapters as they now stand, presenting first the entire discussion of commercial policy and trade with Europe, then the whole account of discovery and exploration. Such an order of presentation would probably have resulted in a slightly different text. The continuity of treatment would have brought into prominence a number of matters that are not given as conspicuous a place as they deserve.

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